

The Earliest Creations

“Allah is the Creator of all things and He is the Guardian over all things” [i].

The first ayah of **Surah Al Alaq** (Read, In the Name of your Lord Who created) mentions that Allah (swt), “Created”! And before He created us, He created various other things such as water, His throne, the Pen and the Preserved Tablets. Therefore, this should be the first lesson, before any study of any history, so that children are able to appreciate the Creation process.

Our Prophet Mohammad (saw) was asked “Where was our Lord before He created His creation?” He replied “Nothing existed but Him, with nothing beneath Him and nothing above Him.”[vi].

Allah (swt) is thus **Al Awwal, The First**. Everything besides Allah was created by Him, is under His Dominion and His Disposal and was brought into being, having previously not existed. He is thus **Al Khaliq, the Creator**.

Prophet Mohammad (saw) further said:

*“Allah created the **Arsh (Throne)** and placed it above the **water**”[vii]*

*“Allah created everything from **water**”[viii].*

*“Allah ordained the measures of the creation fifty thousand years before He created the **Heavens and the Earth**, while His **Throne** was over the **water**”[ix].*

*“The first thing that Allah created was **the Pen**, then He said to it, ‘Write’. In that very hour all that was to occur was written up to the Day of Resurrection”[x].*

*“Indeed, Allah created a **Preserved Tablet** from a white pearl; its pages are made from a red ruby and its Pen is light and its record is light”[xi].*

The above narrations describe the Sequence of Creation as follows:



After creating **water and the Throne**, Allah (swt) decided the destiny of mankind. He created the **Pen** and commanded it to write.

So, the Pen wrote upon the **Lohe Mahfouz or the Preserved Tablet**. It is beyond human comprehension to imagine this Tablet, which has a record of every action, utterance, thought and movement (or lack of) within creation, from the moment the Pen began writing till the Last Hour. Even if a leaf is to fall from a tree within the darkness of the night in an isolated forest, the precise time of its falling and the path

of descent has been written upon the Tablet.[xii]

Arsh and Kursi

“The Throne was created from a red ruby and the distance between its two sides would take fifty thousand years to traverse.”[ii]

It has legs which are held by the angels, it is above Paradise, which is above the heavens and there are a hundred levels between each of heavens’ seven levels.

“His Kursi extends over the heavens and the Earth and He feels no fatigue in guarding and preserving them. And He is the Most High, the Most Great”[iii]

“The Kursi refers to the Footstool”.[iv]

“The Kursi in relation to the Arsh is no more than a ring of iron thrown into an open desert on Earth.”[v]

The Lohe Mahfouz has Allah’s protection and so it has been preserved. Some people believe that whatever has been written in it cannot be altered while others state that it is possible for alterations to exist with the permission of Allah (swt). Also, it is believed that the Quran originated from the Lohe Mahfouz.

The Lohe Mahfouz was written 50,000 years before mankind was created. Everything that will happen to us throughout our lives has already been decided by Allah (swt). All that will happen after we are gone is in the Lohe Mahfouz. All that has already occurred since the creation of the Pen until today is also written in it. Mankind only has some record of

this History and we will try to learn some of it in this course of study.

After the Lohe Mahfouz, Allah created **the Heavens and the Earth** and everything in it.

[i] Surah Al Zumar 39:62

[ii] From the book “The Description of the Throne”

[iii] Surah Al Baqarah 2:255

[iv] Sahih Bukhari and Sahih Muslim

[v] Narrated by Ibn Jareer At Tabari in his Tafseer

[vi] Sahih Bukhari

[vii] Sahih Bukhari

[viii] Narrated by Ibn Hibban

[ix] Sahih Muslim

[x] Narrated by Ahmad in his Musnad

[xi] Weak hadeeth narrated by At Tabarani in Al Kabeer

[xii] <http://www.seekerspath.co.uk>

The Earliest Creations Comprehension Questions

1. What was the sequence of Allah's earliest creations?

2. What is the Arsh?

3. What did Allah (swt) do after he created the Pen?

4. How many years before mankind was created did Allah (swt) write their destiny?

5. What is written in the Lohe Mahfouz?

Lesson Plan: Exploring the Earliest Creations in Islam

Objective: Students will understand the concept of creation in Islam and the sequence of Allah's earliest creations. They will also grasp the significance of the Throne, the Pen, and the Preserved Tablet in Islamic belief.

Duration: 1 hour

Materials Needed: Whiteboard or flip chart, Markers, Printouts of relevant Quranic verses and Hadiths, Printouts of the article and comprehension questions, Craft supplies for hands-on activities (optional)

Introduction (10 minutes):

- Begin by engaging students with the quote: “Allah is the Creator of all things and He is the Guardian over all things” (Surah Al Zumar 39:62).
- Explain that today's lesson will explore the sequence of Allah's earliest creations according to Islamic beliefs.
- Introduce key terms: Arsh (Throne), Kursi (Footstool), Pen, and Preserved Tablet.
- Share a brief overview of the significance of understanding creation before studying history.

Main Content (30 minutes):

- Present the sequence of Allah's earliest creations using Quranic verses and Hadiths:
 - o Creation of water, the Throne, and the Pen.
 - o Commanding the Pen to write upon the Preserved Tablet.
- Discussion on the role of the Preserved Tablet in recording everything from the beginning until the Last Hour.
- Discuss the concept of predestination (Qadr) and the belief in the unalterable nature of the Preserved Tablet.
- Encourage questions and reflections from students throughout the discussion.

Hands-on Activity (15 minutes):

- Divide students into small groups.
- Provide each group with craft supplies and ask them to create visual representations of the sequence of creation (e.g., drawings of water, the Throne, the Pen, and the Preserved Tablet).
- Encourage creativity and attention to detail.
- After completion, have each group present their creations to the class, explaining the significance of each element they depicted.

Comprehension Questions (10 minutes):

- Distribute the printout of the article and the comprehension questions to the students.
- Allow students time to read and then individually answer the questions.
- Review the answers as a class, encouraging discussion and clarification.

Conclusion (5 minutes):

- Summarize the key points covered in the lesson, emphasizing the importance of understanding the earliest creations in Islam.
- Reiterate the significance of the Throne, the Pen, and the Preserved Tablet in shaping Islamic belief.
- Encourage students to reflect on how this knowledge can deepen their understanding of their faith and the world around them.

Assessment: Evaluate students' understanding through their participation in discussions, hands-on activities, and their responses to comprehension questions.

Extension:

- Invite students to research and present on related topics, such as the significance of the Arsh and Kursi.
- Encourage students to write reflections on what they learned during the lesson and how it impacts their understanding of their faith.